

MAINE FARMER, AND JOURNAL OF THE ARTS.

"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

Vol. VIII.

WINTHROP, SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1840.

No. 2.

THE FARMER.

E. HOLMES, Editor.

WINTHROP, SATURDAY MORNING, JAN'Y 18, 1840.

A HOMESPUN JACKET A CURE FOR HARD TIMES.

Among the thousand and one causes which are mentioned by wise men—and *knowey* men—and political men, and others who undertake to divine the cause of the present exceedingly "*hard times*," we apprehend the excessive importation of goods from Europe, and the countries beyond the sea, is none of the smallest.

We took occasion not long since to indite a chapter upon this subject. Since then, the report of the Secretary of the Treasury has been published, and on examination we see that Uncle Sam has bought from his far-off cousins over THIRTY-NINE MILLIONS of dollars' worth of sundries more than he sold—that is, the imports are nearly that amount more than the exports. Now any body with half an eye, can see, that if an individual should buy more than he could earn—he would get in debt accordingly and be pushed for the wherewithal to pay. As it is with individuals so it is with communities or nations. So long as this immense balance of trade is against us, so long must there be a continual drain of our cash funds to pay the balance. If our cotton and our lumber, our tobacco, and what few manufactured articles that we can *truck* off do not pay for what we have bought, why we must pay over what little gold and silver we may chance to have on hand. Now our specie can't be in two places at once, and if we ship it off we are left minus at home, and if we don't ship it off our credit suffers abroad, our paper is dishonored, and trade is deranged and destroyed.

One cause of this excessive importation—indeed the main cause is PRIDE. A foolish yearning for that which is "dear bought and far fetched." The remedy therefore must be to away with such folly, and look about us and see if we have not something at home which we can take pride in. Revive the good old custom of wearing articles of domestic manufacture. Set the wheel and the distaff buzzing once more in the Farmer's domicile—Go back to the good old times when the merry shuttle danced lively and the web grew firm and strong under the skill and industry of the Farmer's wife or daughter's hand; Or, if you are afraid of having a garment *too warm and durable*, carry your wool to some one of the woolen manufactories this side of the Atlantic, and be sure that you are not indebted to any other than American industry for the clothes to shield an American body from the effects of an American climate. This plan, if adopted and strictly adhered to by the farmers of the United States—only the farmers themselves, would make an enormous difference in the balance of trade. If pride must be indulged, let it be indulged in this way and it will do some good.

We can make our own woollens—we can make our own linens, if we set about it. We can make our own silks, what necessity then of plunging ourselves into debt merely to gratify a senseless vanity—mere personal display—the silly pride of strutting in a "*smart-er coat*" than our neighbor.

The battles of the revolution were fought by soldiers clad with clothes made by the hands of the patriotic and industrious women—women, did we say, LADIES of that eventful period. Was there ever a contest more gallantly conducted, or a victory more fruitful of glorious results? The statesmen of that day were proud to wear the productions of their wives

and sisters. And did there ever assemble a wiser or more patriotic class of men since the world began? Were the deliberations of any body of sages characterized with more disinterested zeal, or crowned with such signal benefits to the world than theirs? And yet forsooth, hardly half a century has passed over, when the very children of these immortal men, are seen spurning the produce of their own country, and extravagantly decking themselves out with cloths of foreign fabric. How many of our representatives in Congress, think you, are clad in garments of domestic manufacture? We presume not one. How many of our representatives at Washington are clad in garments of even American manufacture? We venture to say but very few of them. And yet they all talk loudly of patriotism, and will give you learned lectures upon political economy, show you how this party and that party are to blame and the sole cause of the pressure which is now weighing down the energies of the country and causing so much trouble in the community. If they would divest themselves of all prejudice, rub the scales of party zeal and sectional prejudices from their eyes—let common sense have its proper sway—*put on the homespun jacket* and contend for the good of the country, the whole country and nothing but the country,—panics and pressures would pass away—industry revive, and prosperity crown our enterprise with perfect success.

MR. COLMAN'S ADDRESS

BEFORE THE MIDDLESEX SOCIETY.

We have received a copy of this Address, which is in Mr Colman's best style. He lashes many of the follies which are abundant in society. Encourages the farmer in his pursuits, and places before him incentives to industry, and gives him reasons why he should be proud of his calling. Agriculture, says he, under God is a creator. She speaks, and it is done. She stretches her mighty wand over the Earth, and countless beautiful and glorious forms rise at her bidding. She casts the seed into the ground; perhaps it is the least of seeds; but see how soon it becomes a tree, and its branches are glittering and pendant with fruit.

What amazing miracles does she work before our eyes! With what a boundless profusion does she compensate the labors of industry and skill! What marvellous products does she pour out in fifties, in hundreds, in thousands. The product of a single grain of wheat in a single season, was ascertained to be 21,109 ears, measuring three pecks and three-quarters of grain, and producing no less than 576,840 kernels.

What instrument secondary to the Almighty agent, is a creator like Agriculture; and what is all the real, substantial, useful wealth of the community, but its products?

The Agriculture of a country is the great source of its riches, and the right arm of its power.

MR. KEZER'S PIGGERY.

We were much pleased the other day with a "*call*" at Mr Kezer's piggery in this town. It is in the basement story of his barn, and well fitted up with sties for the porkers and bins for roots. He drives his cart, when loaded with roots into his barn floor above; lifts up a trap door, tips up his cart and the roots are completely housed for winter. We found one of his sows very comfortably situated in one of the pens "*all nice and warm*," with a goodly litter of youngers frolicking and frisking about their dam, little dreaming that the weather without was crowding the thermometer down to zero. In one of the pens we saw that he had adopted the "*Coffee House*" system of solitary boxes

for single gentlemen. A slide door raised by a string, lets his pigship into a box—the door falls behind him. It is just large enough for him to stand in, and *behave* himself, for he can't turn round. After he has "*eat all before him*," the door rises and he backs out, and retires to his snug warm dormitory to *snooze* away the time till the "*curtain rises* for another meal. Mr Kezer will sell his herd which is made up of several grades, as may be seen in his advertisement on another page. Mr Kezer placed a layer of dried leaves 18 inches thick next the outside boarding on the north side of his piggery, over the top another layer, under the floor, as thick as the sleepers. The bottom he formed thus: He placed stones—common cobble stones—upon the ground, over these he spread a layer of blue clay. The water in the spring of the year trickles about among the stones, and passes off, while above it is perfectly dry.

CULTIVATOR & GENESEE FARMER.—The Albany Cultivator, which is now united with the Genesee Farmer, and published monthly at Albany, has been received. It will undoubtedly continue to be ably edited and filled with interesting matter. Mr A. B. Allen of Buffalo has a good chapter on hogs in this number, which we shall copy as soon as we can be furnish ourselves with cuts.

PASCADUMKEAG PORKERS. Our friend I. P. Haynes, of Pascadumkeag, has furnished us with a statement of the weight of his swine slaughtered this year. Our readers will undoubtedly recollect that we published an account of his pork operations last year, and we are pleased to find him as successful this. Mr Haynes has a pleasant farm on the Penobscot River.

FRIEND HOLMES.—Dear Sir,—Agreeably to your request, I with pleasure communicate to you the following.

In the year 1839 I killed 7 hogs.				
April 22,	I killed the 1st,	10 months old,	weight,	247
Oct. 16,	2d,	18	"	441
Dec. 16,	3d,	18	"	393
" 23,	4th,	20	"	453
" "	5th,	20	"	433
" "	6th,	20	"	374
" 28,	7th,	20	"	463

The two first killed, I put up in separate pens early in the fall and fed them on boiled potatoes mixed with oat and pea meal, wheat bran, &c.; the other five ran in the yard around my stables, and were fed on food similar to the above, but not so plentifully.

About the 20th of June I turned them into a piece of clover, about two acres, where they remained till the 26th of September, and were fed very little in consequence of my having nine pigs and one hog in the pen that I was obliged to feed. Sept. 26th, I put four of them into two pens, the other by himself. I fed them from the time I put them in till I killed them, on boiled potatoes, pumpkins and squashes, mixed with oat and pea meal—rye and barley meal also mixed with potatoes, &c.

I took great care to have their pens kept clean, and a good quantity of bedding for them, so as to keep them warm and comfortable.

The one weighing 433 lbs. was a sow, and brought me five pigs in April, which I have now. Also the one weighing 374 lbs. brought five pigs, four of which I now have; the other I sold when three weeks old for \$2.00.

Very respectfully,

ISAAC P. HAYNES.

Jan. 8, 1839.

The opposition against book-farming rests on the shoulders of two monsters, ignorance and prejudices.

Original.
CLEAR PORK.

MR. HOLMES: The remarks of your correspondent "I" in the Farmer of 7th Dec. relating to the quantity of clear pork in a round hog reminds me to mention what little I know about the subject.

I butchered a hog a few days since weighing 412 lbs. which was intended for market; but as I could not get more than 5 1-2 cents per. pound offered for it, I concluded to salt and keep it (till it would realize me more—say 7 or 8 cents per. lb. which perhaps would be about a fair price all things considered—for it ready money. Having dealt some in the Winchester pork (one of the best brands I know of) I aimed to take out what would pass for clear pork according to their practice of putting up, and I obtained from said hog clear 215 lbs. Hams and shoulders 88 lbs. Lard (un-tried) 26 lbs. Head 25 lbs. Feet, lean and spare-rib 58 lbs. This may perhaps be rather more than an average proportion of clear compared with some other hogs, as he was a small boned hog and much given to fat. Of the head, lean &c. what we did not distribute gratis among our good neighbors in the shape of good-will, free-will or friendship offerings, is being made use of in the family; considering it so much clearly gained, as I intend and doubt not but I shall get as much for the balance—say the clear, hams and lard, as the whole hog would bring me in the market now, even at 8 cents per. lb. Let us calculate and see, though it be digressing somewhat from the subject.—

215 lbs. clear, (allowing the gain in weight to amount to the cost of the salt in salting which I believe is the fact) at 9 d. per. lb.	\$26.87
88 lbs. hams and shoulders—less 13 lbs. for salt and shrinkage in smoking—at 9d.	9.37
26 lbs. lard—less 6 lbs. for waste in trying out—at 9d.	2.50
	<hr/> \$38.74

Deduct the amount of the whole hog 412 at 8 cents per lb.	32.96
Twelve months interest on same	1.97
	<hr/> \$34.93

And we have a nett profit over ready money 3.81
If I were to advise with farmers, I should say—never sell round hogs well fattened for less than 8 cents per lb. when salt pork will fetch 12 1-2—no NEVER. But to return.

In conclusion let it be added, it is my judgment that the average per cent. of clear pork in the best kind of round hogs does not fall much short of 50 on a hundred.

West Sidney, Dec. 1839.

Original.
AGRICULTURAL SURVEY, &c.

MR. HOLMES:—I noticed with great pleasure a communication from your very worthy and intelligent correspondent J. H. J. of Peru, (I wish by the way that all of your writers would give us their names right out like a man) upon the subject of an Agricultural Survey of the State, and as I have for some time felt that it was very important, and have with some others heretofore made a fruitless attempt to bring the thing to the point by the action of our Legislature, I am heartily glad to welcome the sentiments of my friend from Peru. He certainly has taken a common-sense, business like view of the subject, and although as a State, our finances are not in the best situation that is desirable, still, I would suggest whether we can do anything to improve them permanently and in the long run, better than to spread before the community information in regard to the existing resources and the probable further developments of the agricultural qualities of our soil, &c. in order that we may not only stay the desire of emigration existing to some extent in the minds of our young men but also, to induce our friends from older settled portions of the country, to come in and possess the land with us. I ask you how we are to replenish the treasury of the State? Is it by a stiff and niggardly objection to a trifling expenditure of money to promote the cause of Agriculture, when it is an established fact, as undeniable as that the sun is the great centre of light and heat, that "Agriculture may be regarded as the breast from which the State derives support and nourishment, and that the people employed in carrying on the various operations of commerce and manufactures must constantly be fed by those who are engaged in the parent art." It must therefore be considered of the first importance to us as a State, because our temporal welfare and prosperity, depend upon receiving a regular and sufficient supply of the various articles cultivated by the agriculturist. Now I do not find fault with any particular party or set of men, for their want of interest in this subject; something has been done, some few advances toward the encouragement that ought to be extended for the benefit of "the dear people" (whose good favor is always wanted about election time if I recollect right, but the dear people have not yet by the way received their bounty on wheat and corn for the year 1838) no matter, better is it that we bear each other's burdens in that respect,

than grumble much, or ask the State to go abroad and involve us in a foreign debt; let us stick to the plough and let the State help us all they can in the meantime and all will be well. Well, one says, if the State is so much in debt now that she can't pay the farmers their bounty money, why do you propose a further expenditure? and how shall we get the means? These are serious questions to be sure, but let us look at the matter for a moment. How much money will probably be wanted to procure one or two capable men to carry out the project. In answer to that question I must refer your readers to the very sensible remarks of your correspondent from Peru, merely adding that it need not exceed \$5000. Well how are we to get the \$5000, that's the rub. * * * Why, Mr. Editor, let us economize a little more in our State expenditures and the money will be found. I don't intend to be personal or cast any reflections, as I intimated before, upon any particular set of men, but the interests of Agriculture are languishing, and we are losing some of the best of our population for want merely of information which it is in the power of our government to give us—and for one I am not willing to see the State depressed and degraded for want of a little attention to the subject. I am satisfied by personal observation somewhat extensive and by other practical information, that on the whole no State in the Union possesses greater, if so large agricultural resources as our own, and they only need to be developed and understood to make us not only independent and free from debt in a great measure, but the happiness and best good of all the people depend upon it. I have no tact in representing or beclouding my sentiments—and I think upon this subject at least, there is no need, better speak out. We expect something from the next Legislature in furthering this matter, and I trust that our friends will be active in getting up petitions and memorials to this end.

Will you prepare a form of petition and publish it as soon as may be, and oblige

Your humble ser't. and many others.

GEO. A. THATCHER.

Brewer, Dec. 10, 1839.

NOTE.—The above communication should have been inserted before, but was delayed that the Editor might comply with the request of the writer. The subject is important not only to the farmers but to the whole people of the State, and as it is not now too late for the action of the Legislature, we insert it at this late time. We hope Mr. T. will pardon us for omitting a few sentences, for reasons which we doubt not that he will think sufficient upon reflection.—

Original.
A GOOD BEGINNING.

MR. HOLMES,—Dear Sir,—Having now settled on a farm I wish to subscribe for the MAINE FARMER for the ensuing year. I don't know that I can make it convenient to pay in advance, having exhausted my funds in moving. I will endeavor to be punctual when it becomes due.

When I came here I brought with me a lot of pigs which came last July. I moved about the middle of October. I turned them into my woods, where they lived two months upon beech nuts and nothing else—the middle of Dec. I butchered some of them, and they made handsome pork, weighing about 80 lbs. each. All I know of the breed is that the boar they came from was of the Vaughan breed so called. Keeping pigs on beech nuts is not a new discovery, but I believe fattening them is, in this part of the country. I believe therefore I must claim the discovery of "the true secret of having fat pigs without giving them any thing," unless some one else shall establish a prior and better claim.*

As you appear to take strong interest in the prosperity of farmers, I will here give a description of my place. It contains 80 acres of land mostly good, a good 2 story house and out building—a new barn—a fine well of water—50 acres improved land including an old orchard of 8 acres, and 30 acres of wood. All this I got for \$700—and last though not least a good neighborhood. But not to trouble you any further at present.—I subscribe myself,

Respectfully, yours truly,

D. S.

Farmington, Dec. 26, 1839.

P. S. I should like to be informed whether a cement can be formed for plastering the outside of buildings which will be durable. If so, I think a description of the ingredients and manner of preparing it might be useful to many if made public through the medium of the Farmer.

D. S.
Ed.

NOTE. We will say something upon the subject soon.

* We give up all right and title to the invention.

Ed.

When snow is heavy and wet, horses feet are apt to become clogged or "ball'd," as it is commonly termed. Now, the trouble arising from this, it is said, may be remedied by placing a little tallow or grease in the hoof.

CLEANINGS

IN THE ARTS AND PRACTICAL SCIENCES.

(Continued from our last.)

Photographic processes, by Andrew Fyfe, M. D. &c.

Photography may be divided into three parts, the preparation of the paper,—taking the impressions,—and preserving them.

1. Methods of preparing the Paper.

Though paper besmeared with solution of lunar caustic is darkened by exposure to light, it is by no means sensitive; other methods have therefore been recommended for preparing it for photographic purposes. That originally given by Mr Talbot is to soak it first in a weak solution of sea-salt, and when dry, to rub it over on one side with solution of lunar caustic, by which chloride of silver is formed, and adheres to the paper. As thus prepared, it acquires a dark color on exposure to light; the depth of color depending on the strength of the solutions; hence it may vary from lilac to deep purple, approaching to black.

In preparing paper by this method, it is very difficult to get the chloride uniformly spread over the surface, and accordingly, when exposed to light, it often gives a variety of shades; indeed, in many places it continues white. It was this that induced me to try the use of other salts of silver; and the one which I have found to answer best is the phosphate, procured in the usual way, by the addition of phosphate of soda to the solution of lunar caustic. In preparing the paper by this method, I generally employ one part of phosphate of soda dissolved in about eight of water, and the nitrate of silver dissolved in about six of water. The paper is first soaked in the phosphate, and then dried, after which the nitrate is put on, on one side by a brush, the paper again dried and afterwards again put through the salt, by which any excess of silver is converted to phosphate. As thus prepared, it acquires a yellow tinge, which becomes black by exposure to light. It is equally sensitive as the chloride, and, in my opinion, gives a much more pleasing variety of shades.

Instead of preparing the paper by the process described, I frequently employ the phosphate precipitated before applying it, for which purpose the nitrate solution is dropped into that of the phosphate of soda, the yellow precipitate is allowed to fall to the bottom, and the supernatant fluid is poured off; what remains must be kept in stone bottles or in a dark place, as it is extremely sensitive to light. In preparing the paper with it, it is put on with a broad flat brush, and then dried in the usual way. Though there is a little difficulty at first in getting the phosphate uniformly spread over the surface, yet by a little practice a uniform ground is easily given, and when once acquired, the method has the advantage of being much cheaper than those previously recommended. I sometimes add a little mucilage to the fluid, which keeps the phosphate suspended in it. There are other methods of preparing the paper, which though they do not give it so sensitive, yet are cheaper than those stated; I allude to the use of the phosphate in solution in ammonia, or, which is cheaper, in the carbonate of ammonia which is procured by adding concentrated solution of carbonate of ammonia to the phosphate collected by precipitation as already described. A still cheaper fluid may be prepared by adding a strong solution of nitrate of silver to a concentrated solution of carbonate of ammonia, by which a carbonate of silver is obtained in solution, and which can be applied to the paper on one side by means of a brush. Paper thus prepared is white; it has the advantage of being easily prepared, and of giving, on exposure to light, a uniform ground which is of a brownish color.*

2. Methods of taking the Impressions.

From what has been already stated, it must be evident that the most direct mode of taking the impressions is, by placing on the paper the object, the delineation of which is wished, and then exposing it to the light. For this purpose it ought to be kept as close as possible on the paper, and the best method of doing so is to place it in a frame with glass in front, and a stuffed cushion behind it. The time required depends, of course, on the intensity of the light, and the density of the object; and it is of the utmost consequence to take care that it is long enough exposed,

*Instead of purchasing lunar caustic of commerce, a cheaper method of procuring it is to dissolve pure silver in nitric acid diluted with its own bulk of water, taking care to have in the vessel more silver than the acid can dissolve; and after it has taken up as much as it can, to dilute the solution with four or five parts of water, or thereabouts, according to the color required.

and that, at the same time, the exposure is not too long continued, for if not long enough, though the outline will be given, yet the representation will not be distinct in all its parts; whereas if too long continued, the fainter parts begin to darken, and the representation is indistinct. The time required must be found by practice. In bright sunshine one minute will be sufficient for some objects: when there is no sunshine an hour or two may be required, and in this case there is little or no danger of destroying the impression by too long exposure, as the light is not of sufficient intensity to darken too much the fainter parts.

Impressions from Engravings may likewise be got in the same way; and for this purpose, instead of using those thrown off on thin paper, by which it is supposed the light is most easily transmitted, it is, I think better to take those on thick paper, because, though the light is not so easily transmitted, yet the impression of the engraving is much bolder, so that a more distinct delineation is given by the photographic process.

Camera Obscura.—The use of the camera obscura for photographic purposes, has been described by Mr. Talbot. Though representations may be got in this way, yet, so far as I have found, they have not the minute distinctness of those got by the method already noticed. Owing to the interference of the lens, the light does not act nearly so powerfully on the paper, as when it has to permeate merely a frame of glass. The same is the case when the light is reflected, and hence the necessity of getting quit of the mirror placed in cameras, for throwing the representation in such a way as to allow of its being traced by the artist. Hence, in taking impressions by the camera, the prepared paper must be fixed on the back of the box directly opposed to the lens, and the focus properly adjusted. I have found great advantage, in taking impressions by the camera, in using the paper moist, and keeping it so all the time it is exposed. For this purpose, after moistening it, I place it between a cushion and a pane of glass, tied tightly together, to prevent, as much as possible, the escape of moisture. In this way I have succeeded in a few minutes in getting a faint outline of the object exposed to the lens.

I may here mention that the camera affords a good method of taking profiles from busts, not by the reflected light from the bust, but by interposing it between the lens and the source of light. The bust, for instance, may be placed, during sunshine, at an open window, and the image from it thrown on the prepared paper; using the precaution, of having the face slightly inclined towards the source of light, so as to give its outline as distinctly as possible.

Etchings.—A method of taking impressions of etchings on glass by the photographic process was described by Havell of London. For this purpose the glass is covered with etching varnish, and after the figure is etched on it, it is smoked, so as to darken the varnish to prevent the transmission of light; of course, the smoke does not adhere to those parts of the glass exposed by the etching needle, and is therefore easily wiped off with a cloth, thus leaving the etching free for the light to pass through. On exposing this with the prepared paper behind it, a beautiful impression is taken. In taking impressions in this way, the varnished side must be placed next the paper, which must be kept close upon the etching by means of a cushion, otherwise the impression is not well defined. When the glass side is next the paper, the impression is very indistinct, owing to the light, when it passes through the exposed parts of the glass, being diffused, and by which the lines run into each other.

From the ease with which impressions can be got in this way, it occurred to me that the process might be still farther extended, so as to enable us to take copies of oil paintings, or of drawings on boards, through which the light does not penetrate, and for this purpose I have followed different methods. One of these is to cover the glass with a transparent varnish, as with a thin solution of Canada balsam in oil of turpentine, and, after laying it down on the oil painting, to etch it out on the varnish, in the usual way; after this, the glass is to be slightly heated, so as to soften the varnish, which is then to be smoked, by holding it in the flame of an argand gas lamp, taking care not to soften the varnish too much; when cold, the smoke is wiped off with a cloth from the parts of the glass exposed by the etching needle. Another method is to cover one side of the glass with starch solution, of such strength, that when dry it is transparent, and it is then to be laid down with the glass side next the paintings, which can be traced with a pencil on the starch, and then etched on the other side, as already described. From glass etchings thus procured, impressions are taken in the usual way.

This process of transparent etching is applicable to the camera obscura; for, instead of using ground

glass, as is commonly done, the representation may be thrown on starched glass, on which it is traced and then etched on the other side, as above described.

Before finishing this part of the subject, I may here allude to a method of taking the impressions, by which I have succeeded in giving them a resemblance to oil paintings.

By the method noticed, paper, or some absorbing substance, is used. I have already stated that the phosphate suspended in water may be employed, which suggested to me the use of the same substance along with a varnish, in the hopes of being able to take the impression on panel-board or metal. I have found this to answer as well as with paper. The varnish I have used is Canada balsam and turpentine, with which the phosphate, dried by the cautious application of heat, and excluded from light, is thoroughly incorporated; with this the panel-board, previously prepared as for an oil painting, is varnished; when dry, the impression is taken on it in the usual way. It will be found to have all the richness of an oil painting.

By this process, impressions equally distinct and brilliant may be taken on metal. Perhaps this may be of service in saving engravers the time and trouble of laying down on the metal the figure to be engraved.

The impressions received by the modes now described are taken by exposure to the solar ray. It is well known that the paper may be darkened by other means, as by the oxyhydrogen blowpipe; but there is no necessity for having recourse to so intense an artificial light. I have found that, by concentrating the light of a common fire by metallic mirrors, the paper is darkened, and the same also occurs with the flame of a gas lamp. Of course, the time required is much longer than when exposed to sunshine. In this way I have succeeded in getting impressions of dried leaves almost as distinct as by solar light; indeed we may dispense altogether with the mirror, for, by exposing the paper with the leaf on it, in a frame, to the light of a common fishtail gas-burner, at the distance of a few inches, I have procured specimens, some of which, though on a small scale, have all the richness of those taken by solar light.

The concentration of the rays by a metallic mirror, so as to get quit of the interference of the lens, would no doubt be a great improvement in the camera obscura, provided it could be accomplished. May not something of this kind be the method followed by Daguerre in getting his camera representations?

(To be continued.)

VARNISHES.

Copal Varnishes for fine Paintings, &c. Fuse 8 lbs. of the very cleanest pale African gum copal, and when completely run fluid, pour in two gallons of hot oil, measure; let it boil until it will string very strong; and in about fifteen minutes, or while it is yet very hot, pour in three gallons of turpentine, old measure, and got from the top of a cistern. Perhaps during the mixing, a considerable quantity of the turpentine will escape; but the varnish will be so much the brighter, transparent, and fluid; and will work freer, dry more quickly, and be very solid and durable when dry. After the varnish has been strained, if it is found too thick, before it is quite cold, heat as much turpentine, and mix with it, as will bring it to a proper consistence.

Cabinet varnish.—Fuse 7 lbs. of very fine African gum copal, and pour in half a gallon of pale clarified oil; in three or four minutes after, if it feel stringy, take it out of doors, or into another building where there is no fire, and mix with it three gallons of turpentine; afterwards strain it, and put it aside for use. This, if properly boiled, will dry in ten minutes; but if too strongly boiled, will not mix at all with the turpentine; and sometimes, when boiled with the turpentine, will mix, and yet refuse to incorporate with any other varnish less boiled than itself: therefore it requires a nicety which is only to be learned from practice. This varnish is chiefly intended for the use of japanners, cabinet-painters, coach-painters, &c.

Best body copal varnish for coach-makers, &c.—This is intended for the body parts of coaches and other similar vehicles, intended for polishing.

Fuse 8 lbs. of fine African gum copal; add two gallons of clarified oil (old measure;) boil it very slowly for four or five hours, until quite stringy; mix with three gallons and a half of turpentine; strain off, and pour it into a cistern. As they are too slow in drying, coach-makers, painters, and varnish-makers, have introduced to two pots of the preceding varnish, one made as follows:—

- 8 lbs. of fine pale gum anime;
- 2 gallons of clarified oil;
- 3 1-2 gallons of turpentine.

To be boiled four hours.

Quick drying body copal varnish, for coaches &c.

- (1.) 8 lbs. of the best African copal;
- 2 gallons of clarified oil;
- 1-2 lb. of dried sugar of lead;
- 3 1-2 gallons of turpentine;

Boiled till stringy, and mixed and strained.

- (2.) 8 lbs. of fine gum anime;
- 2 gallons of clarified oil;
- 1-4 lb. of white copperas;
- 3 1-2 gallons of turpentine.

Boiled as before.

To be mixed and strained while hot into the other pot. These two pots mixed together will dry in six hours in winter, and in four in summer; it is very useful for varnishing old work on dark colors, &c.

Best pale carriage varnish.

- (1.) 8 lbs. 2d sorted African copal;
 - 2 1-2 gallons of clarified oil.
- Boiled till very stringy.
- 1-4 lb. of dried copperas;
 - 1-4 lb. of litharge;
 - 5 1-2 gallons of turpentine.

Strained, &c.

- (2.) 8 lbs. of 2d sorted gum anime;
- 2 1-2 gallons of clarified oil;
- 1-4 lb. of dried sugar of lead;
- 1-4 lb. of litharge.
- 5 1-2 gallons of turpentine.

Mix this to the first while hot.

This varnish will dry hard, if well boiled, in four hours in summer, and in six in winter. As the name denotes, it is intended for the varnishing of the wheels, springs, and carriage parts of coaches, chaises, &c.; also, it is that description of varnish which is generally sold to and used by house-painters, decorators, &c., as from its drying quality and strong gloss, it suits their general purposes well.

Pale amber varnish. Fuse 6 pounds of fine picked very pale transparent amber in the gum-pot, and pour in 2 gallons of hot clarified oil. Boil it until it strings very strong. Mix with 4 gallons of turpentine. This will be as fine as body copal, will work very free, and flow well upon any work it is applied to: it becomes very hard, and is the most durable of all varnishes; it is very excellent to mix in copal varnishes, to give them a hard and durable quality. Observe; amber varnish will always require a long time before it is ready for polishing.

LEGAL.

IMPORTANT STEAM BOAT DECISION.

The Belfast Republican contains a decision recently made in Waldo county, which established the law upon a point we have never seen contested before, and is important to the owners of steamboats and the travelling public generally—although there are but few who, under the circumstances set forth, would expect their fare to be paid back. The following is the report of the case, made by a legal gentleman for that paper:

WALDO SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT—Dec. Term, 1839. *William Barnes vs. John B. Coyle.* This was an action for false imprisonment, alleged to have occurred on board of the Steamer Portland, of which the defendant was Captain. The facts, as disclosed by the evidence were, that the plaintiff was a passenger on board of the boat from Portland to Boston in the fall of 1837, and when called upon for his fare refused to pay it, claiming a right to go free, because that on a former trip of the boat from Boston to Portland, he had paid for a passage he had not received. The defendant when he arrived at Boston detained him on board nearly an hour, for which detention the action was brought. The right of the Defendant to do so was not pretended by his council, and the question before the jury was what damages should be recovered. It was proved that on the trip from Boston to Portland when the Plaintiff was passenger and paid his fare, the boat was obliged to put into Cape Ann through stress of weather, and the storm increasing and the harbor being full, was obliged to put back to Boston. While at Cape Ann the Plaintiff refused to go back, and at his request was put ashore. On trial the court ruled, (Shepley J. presiding) that when a passenger goes on board a boat, and the boat is detained on the passage through stress of weather or is obliged to put back on that account, and the passenger leaves the boat, there being no fault in it from weakness, or from being overloaded, he has no right to reclaim the money he has paid. Such being the law, the jury returned a verdict for nominal damages.

[The damages were one dollar and twenty-five cents for costs!]



PROCEEDINGS OF KEN. CO. AG. SOCIETY.

Original.

STATEMENT ON RUTA BAGA.—In Sept. 1837, I ploughed half an acre of pasture land, being in a corner. It had been folded by cattle and sheep considerable. The spring following ploughed the same twice and planted it to corn without manure—got a good crop—ploughed it in the fall. Last spring I harrowed it well, then spread on eight loads of horse and sheep manure—ploughed it in and harrowed the ground faithfully—then planted the same to ruta bagas in rows two feet apart—plants stood from 6 to 18 inches from each other, hoed them once, and harvested 465 bushels of as good ruta bagas as ever I saw, being of good size, and very smooth.

Labor of planting 3-4 of a days work.

do. of hoeing and thinning out 3 days work.

do. harvesting 4 days work.

The soil was a yellow rocky loam.

S. N. WATSON.

Fayette, Nov. 16, 1839.

Original.

STATEMENT ON POTATOES.—In Sept. 1837, I ploughed one acre of sward ground that was completely bound out, having been mowed nine or ten years—sowed the same to barley—the next spring got 25 bushels—ploughed in the fall as soon as the barley was off. Last spring I harrowed it thoroughly—then ploughed it—then harrowed again. I then spread on 18 loads of manure, ten from the horse stable and 3 from my heaps at the barn—this manure was mixed with straw by littering my horses and cattle so as to increase the bulk at least one half. I then ploughed in the manure and harrowed the ground again, then furrowed it 3 ft. apart. I then took 30 bushels of red potatoes, cut each potatoe into four pieces and dropped two pieces in a hill about 18 inches apart, hoed them twice, and harvested from the same 360 bushels.

The soil was a yellow rocky loam.

NOAH WATSON.

Fayette, Nov. 25, 1839.

Original.

STATEMENT ON POTATOES.—I broke up one acre of sward land in 1838, which I sowed with peas and oats. The next spring I planted 18 bushels of Philadelphia or Chenango potatoes in drills, placing into the drills 40 bushels of slacked lime, and no other manure of any kind. The lime I quarried and burnt on my farm in Monmouth. My potatoes were hoed only once. I dug two hundred and forty-two bushels from the said piece. The soil was a clayey loam, and the season rather unfavorable for potatoes.

E. FOLSOM.

Monmouth, Jan. 10, 1840.

Original.

STATEMENT ON POTATOES.—The soil is a gravelly loam, rather dry, and had been cropped with the sythe four years, and I cut only about half a ton of hay the last season to the acre. It was ploughed in the fall of 1838—the spring following, in May, I carted on 12 loads of 45 bushels each of coarse manure from the barn yard and spread on to the furrows—and harrowed the soil three times—I furrowed my rows three feet asunder and dropped the potatoes in hills two feet distant, the most of them the common whites—and the remainder the large red potatoes, about 22 bushels to the acre—they were hoed once only—and poorly too. I had one acre measured and it measured 299 bushels—not so great a crop as I have raised but a cheap one.

The expense of raising is as follows:—

Ploughing	\$3 00
Harrowing	1 00
Planting	2 00
Hoeing	1 75
Harvesting and putting into the cellar	5 00
	\$12 75

Cr. by 299 bushels of potatoes at 25 cts. per bushel \$74 75
Deduct expenses 12 75

For the use of land and profit \$62 75

WALTER HAINS.

Winthrop, Dec. 1839.

Original.

STATEMENT ON TURNIPS.—The soil on which I raised

ed my crop of turnips is a yellow loam. It was in grass five years previous to the spring of 1838. It was then ploughed and a crop of potatoes raised at the rate of 200 bushels to the acre. In the spring of 1837 I carted on to one half acre four cords of manure which was a mixture of muck and the droppings of the cattle, about half and half, then ploughed and pulverized it fine with a horse and cultivator, and sowed it with turnips the 16th of the 6th month in rows 2 feet apart, the plants about 8 inches in the rows. I hoed them twice, and harvested them the first of the 11th month, and on one half an acre I had three hundred and twenty-five bushels.

Dr. to ploughing	1 00
Four cords of manure at half price	4 00
Seed and sowing	1 00
Hoeing	6 00
Harvesting and putting into the cellar	3 00
	\$15 00

J. W. HAINS.

Hallowell, 11 mo. 23d, 1839.

Original.

STATEMENT ON CARROTS.—The soil on which I raised my crop of carrots is a yellow loam. It was cultivated in 1837 with Mangel Wurtzel—in 1833 with potatoes. It was ploughed in the spring and 2 cords of common barn manure spread on—then pulverized it fine with a horse and cultivator and sowed it with carrots the last of the 5th month in rows 15 inches apart. I sowed it with my drill machine and put in 1 pound of seed. I hoed them three times, and harvested them the first of the 11th month. I had 76 1-2 bushels on one fourth of an acre.

Dr. to ploughing	50
2 cords of manure, half price	2 00
Sowing and seed	75
Hoeing	4 05
Harvesting	1 50
	\$8 86

J. W. HAINS.

Hallowell, 12th mo. 28th, 1839.

Original.

STATEMENT ON THE GREATEST CROP OF ROOTS RAISED ON ONE FARM.—Potatoes.—My potatoe crop grew upon two acres of land. This land had been mowed for six or more years, and had not been manured in the time, and had become nearly run out. In the spring of 1838 I broke it up, and sowed it to barley without manure, excepting about one bushel of plaster sowed on after the barley was up. Had about 15 bushels to the acre. Last spring I ploughed again, having previously hauled on and spread twenty loads per acre of coarse manure, made at the barn last winter. I harrowed it lightly, and furrowed a shoal furrow, and planted them (the potatoes) about one foot apart in the furrow having cut them into pieces in the ordinary way. I then covered them with the horse plough. I found it necessary to follow after with the hoe and mend the work in some places. I dropped in a small quantity of plaster with the potatoes, using about one bushel to the acre. Soon after they were up I used the cultivator between the rows, and hoed them twice. I gathered from the two acres four hundred and fifty bushels.

Estimate of expense.—Potatoe Crop.

Dr. Hauling manure	3 00
Spreading	1 00
Ploughing	3 00
Harrowing	1 00
Furrowing	1 00
Dropping	1 75
Covering	1 50
Plaster and putting on	1 25
Cultivating	2 00
Hoeing	4 00
Digging	13 50
	\$33 00

Cr. by 450 bushels at 20 cts. 90 00
Deduct cost 33 00

Making net gain \$57 00 and bringing the cost of the potatoes a fraction over 7 cents per bushel, allowing nothing for rent of land, and charging nothing for value of manure, a considerable part of which still remains to benefit a future crop.

Ruta Baga.—This crop was raised upon half an acre of land which had been mowed several years previous to 1837. I spread upon it, in the spring 20 loads of common coarse barn manure and ploughed it in, and planted it to corn. It was a poor season for corn and I had a poor crop. In 1838 I sowed it to wheat without any additional manure and harvested nine bushels. In the spring of 1839 I hauled on and ploughed in, 12 loads of common coarse barn manure. I then harrowed it smooth, and sowed it to Ruta Baga on the 17th of May. The next operation was to put on ashes and plaster—two and a half bushels of ashes and half bushel of plaster soon after they were up. I used the cul-

tivator between the rows and hoed them three times. I thinned them out to about one foot in the rows and filled up the vacancies by setting out. I harvested them on the first of November and had three hundred and nineteen bushels.

Estimate of Expenses.—Ruta Baga.

Dr. Hauling manure, (being close to barn)	75
Spreading	25
Ploughing	75
Harrowing	25
Sowing (with machine)	25
Seed	50
Plastering, &c.	50
Cultivating	75
Hoeing	3 00
Thinning, &c.	1 00
Harvesting	1 50
	\$9 50

Cr. by 319 bushels at 17 cts. per bushel \$54 23, from which deduct expenses leaves net proceeds \$44 73, not reckoning rent of land or manure, and making the cost about three cents per bushel.

I also had another half acre sowed to Ruta Baga, planted where I had the same kind of crop last year. I sowed upon it this year without any manure, and harvested 141 bushels. From this experiment I should not be inclined to put two crops of Ruta Baga successively on the same ground without manuring. I did not hoe them but twice, nor did I fill up the vacancies by setting out. Of course the expense of cultivating the half acre was less than the above, but the cost per bushel was more.

Sugar Beets.—I raised one half acre of sugar beets. This was also on land which was sowed last year to Ruta Baga. I put no manure on it this year. I planted the beets on the 12th of May. When they were up I cultivated between the rows and hoed them three times—thinned them out and filled up vacancies by setting out. I harvested one hundred and ten bushels.

Estimate of Expenses.—Sugar Beets.

Dr. Ploughing 1-2 acre	75
Harrowing	25
Sowing (by machine)	25
Cultivating	75
Hoeing, &c.	4 50
Plaster and ashes	50
Harvesting	1 50
Seed	1 00
	\$9 50

Cr. by 110 bushels worth 25 cts. per bushel, 27 50—net proceeds \$18 00—not including rent of land.

The land on which these crops grow, is a mixture of clayey and sandy loam.

I make the cost of raising Ruta Bagas on an average four cents per bushel.

Of Sugar Beets a fraction short of nine cents per bushel, not reckoning rent or manure.

Total amount of Root Crop.

Potatoes 450 bushels, worth	90 00
Ruta Bagas 319 do. do.	54 23
do. do. 141 do. do.	23 97
Sugar Beets 110 do. do.	27 50

Whole amount 1620 bushels, worth \$195 70

Cost of Potatoes 33 00

do. Ruta Bagas 9 50

do. do. do. 7 32

do. Sugar Beets 9 50

Making 59 32 59 32

Balance in favor of crops \$136 39

ALFRED CHANDLER.

Winthrop, Jan. 1839.

Original.

STATEMENT ON MANGEL WURTZEL.—The soil on which I raised my crop of Mangel Wurtzel is a yellow loam. It was in grass previous to the spring of 1838, and at that time it was ploughed and cultivated with potatoes. It was ploughed in the spring and 2 cords of common barn manure spread on, then pulverized with a horse and cultivator and sowed it with Mangel Wurtzel the last of the 5th month in rows 2 feet apart one way, and 8 inches the other. I hoed them three times, and harvested them the last of the 10th month, and on one eighth of an acre I had 75 bushels.

Dr. Ploughing	50
2 cords of manure, half price,	2 00
Sowing and seed	1 00
	\$3 50

I believe what leaves I gathered from them paid all the expense after they were sowed: I pulled them and gave them to my hogs.

J. W. HAINS.

Hallowell, 12th mo. 23th, 1839.

Original.

STATEMENT ON RUTA BAGA SEED.—The Ruta Baga

seed for which I claim a premium was raised on eight rods of sandy land from twelve bushels of roots. This spot has been appropriated to the raising of garden beans principally for six or eight years past. The last year it had no manure excepting one load of bog muck right from the meadow, and the present season one load of said muck which had laid in the barn yard from spring till fall. The roots were set out about the middle of May, but owing to the extreme wet or some other cause nearly one fourth part failed to vegetate. The seed was gathered at different times as it ripened. The first quality, as sold to R. G. Lincoln weighed 33 pounds.

J. A. METCALF.

Winthrop, Nov. 25, 1839.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

FERTILITY OF THE SOIL IN MAINE.

MR. HOLMES:—Is the soil of Maine less fertile than the Southern or Western States? In order to answer this question, it is necessary to inquire into the original cause of fertility. The earth is said to be made up principally of sand, clay and lime. These certainly are as abundant in Maine as in any of the Southern or Western States. But sand, clay and lime alone are incapable of affording nourishment to plants without the addition of animal or vegetable substances. If an animal or a plant dies and becomes incorporated with the soil the fertility of the earth is increased. Now much is said of the fertility of the Western lands: from what source was this fertility derived? certainly from animal and vegetable substances. But it is said that animals derive their support directly or indirectly from the vegetable kingdom, and of course the manure of animals must come from the same source, it will follow of course that all fertility is derived originally from dying vegetables. Ask the rich farmer of the western prairies to what cause he is indebted for the fertility of his farm; the answer would be the accumulation of vegetable matter for ages has produced this fertility. Now to suppose that nature has supplied a larger amount of vegetables in the Western States than in our state is absurd. We have rivers and streams in Maine as well as in the West to scatter fertility. We have meadows and swamps and low lands in Maine as well as at the West. We can enrich our soil with mud from our swamps.—Our low lands may be made to produce tremendous crops of hay affording winter support to our cattle and also an abundance of manure aided by which we can raise corn of a better quality than our friends at the West.

Let us cultivate such crops as are best suited to the climate and our farmers may secure to themselves a substantial prosperity. Let us say to our Southern and Western brethren, although we are perfectly independent, still we invite you to share with us the mutual benefits of commercial friendship.

R.

Rumford, Dec. 1839

COMMON SCHOOLS.—No. 1.

MR. HOLMES.—I propose to join other gentlemen of the feather, and occasionally, as I have a leisure hour write for your paper, some of my thoughts on Common Schools. Certain it is that the young persons who attend our town schools do not derive that advantage from them which they ought. When we take into view the expense of our schools—wages of teachers, cost of fuel, value of the time of scholars,—cost of books and school-houses, it would seem that something of more value should be received for the amount than generally is. Why, it may be asked, is it that in this town there are many young men, growing and grown up, "to the full stature of men," who have had the privilege of attending school a good portion of every year from their "baby hood" to the present time, and are now about to take the places of men in the world, without a sufficient knowledge of the common branches of an English education to qualify them to transact the ordinary business of life with any degree of ease, correctness or despatch? Is it not matter of surprise to consider, that not one half of the young men, who are apparently so happily situated in regard to mental culture, have never gained a knowledge of the principles of the language they use? that a far smaller proportion have never attempted to become acquainted with the principles of Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Astronomy, or any branches beyond those of reading, mechanical writing, Arithmetic, and Geography; and in many cases have gained but a very limited knowledge of the two latter? Something more than this might reasonably be expected. This is no more than our fathers gained, in the early settlement of our country, without any schools; or as in cases within my knowledge, with but three or four months school in their lives. Now if all the expense of common schools is a waste of money, (and if our children and youth learn no more

with them, than others did without them, why is it not? what an amount of capital is thrown away in the State of Maine! Enough in a few years to construct all the public works within her borders, that have ever been talked, or dreamt of, by the most visionary of her inhabitants, bating the expense of "rail road to the moon." But more of this in another place.

O. P. Q. in his communication on this subject, remarks that "There seems to be in the youth of the present day, an indifference and want of self-energy, manifested in relation to the acquisition of knowledge, notwithstanding the interest felt in their behalf, and their advantages, which is not easy to be accounted for." The same writer says, "it may be doubted whether the scholars in our common schools receive so good an education, at this time, with all their superior advantages, as their predecessors did." I believe I have given his idea, though not exactly in his language.

I agree with him in this view, or rather, I would say it is certain they do not. But I will attempt this "not easy" task of accounting for the indifference of which he complains, and of the consequent failure of so many of our youth, to obtain a competent education.

The first cause, which I shall notice, as operating against the mental culture of the rising generation, is the decline of family authority. Formerly parents governed their children—the will of the parents was the law of the household—there was no appeal from their decision in the little realm—the will of the parent, however much it conflicted with that of the child, was to be regarded. Children were generally taught to be submissive. They were early taught that those who had the advantages of age and experience were better qualified to mark out a course of conduct for them, than they were, for themselves. They looked upon parents and teachers as superiors, and acquiesced in their opinions. The habit of submission and acquiescence, thus early acquired; opened their minds to the reception of knowledge. When this was the case the counsels of parents and the instructions of teachers were not received with "indifference;" they were regarded as important and were appreciated as valuable. Now children govern their parents, if not positively and absolutely, so far at least as to choose their own course, and gain a silent acquiescence of the parent. We have become so democratic that not only are "the people their own king," but every child is its own governor. (Don't be alarmed Mr Editor, I am not writing a political essay.) The lesson of submission to authority, which is the foundation of all that is valuable in after life—which marks the dutiful child, the tractable scholar, the peaceable citizen, the pious christian, is one which should early be instilled into the mind. Notwithstanding it may be thought to smack a little of aristocracy it is an impression that should be engraven upon every mind, that there is a higher power to which it is a duty to submit—children and youth, to parents, teachers and others who may have the oversight of them—citizens, to the law of the land—and all, at all times, to the sovereign will of the Ruler of the universe. It is to the neglect of parents, in inculcating, in enforcing this principle of submission and acquiescence, that may be attributed, in a great measure, the cases of indifference, "in relation to the acquisition of knowledge," of which O. P. Q. speaks. To the same cause may be attributed many of the violations of the laws of the land—many of the breaches of the peace—many of the riots of modern days; and to the same cause we may attribute the disregard and violation of the moral and religious instruction which is enjoyed to such an extent by the youth of these days. This extra democratic principle, that every one is to carry out his own notions, is dangerous to be adopted, especially in early life. It is a submission, a yielding disposition of the mind which renders it susceptible of being instructed and enlightened. Neither the course of things, nor the formation of mind is so much changed that there is not now, as much truth in the proverb, "a horse not broken becometh headstrong, and a child left to himself will be wilful" as there ever was. Let children be taught to know and to feel that it is not the bent of their own inclination which they are to follow, but that they are to be guided and directed by others, whom they are to look upon as better qualified to direct; and "the interest felt in their behalf," if expressed, will not be met with indifference. The plan of permitting persons very young to take the reins of self-control, and choose their own course, may sometimes succeed well; but is generally destruction of the happiness and the usefulness of the individual, and a source of misery to those connected with them.

The too democratic idea that each individual is to be his own governor, without either experience, knowledge or judgment in the council, leads generally to tyranny. The mind accustomed to self-control, without reason for a guide, never having known res-

traint, will not brook opposition. Every thing must bend to the same ruler: A mind thus constituted will not readily open itself to the reception of the opinions, instructions and reasonings of others; but will seek to dominate over them. Although it may not openly oppose, and assume "the Dictatorship," it will be slow to follow, or to inquire of others. To this kingly spirit, growing out of highly democratic notions, may, in a measure at least, be imputed the low condition in which many of our young men are, in regard to education. It may be thought by some that I have placed too much stress upon this cause; but others, I think, who have observed causes and their effects, will discover some truth in my remarks. The force of habit, upon young minds, is so powerful, that seldom any power either physical or moral, is able to overcome it. An instance of the display of the power of habit, which may not have been generally noticed, is seen in the effect produced upon a boy or young man, by allowing him to drive a team of horses or oxen. It seldom fails to close all the avenues by which he can be approached. To attempt to instruct him, is like giving lessons to an Eastern despot. Why he can drive "a three cattle team," and "that's what every one can't do." He is above receiving instruction from any common source. Accustomed to govern, to drive, how can he condescend to be guided by others. The same effect is produced on our stage drivers who enter upon the business young; they are the most consequential men in the community—qualified to instruct and govern all others. It is said the slave drivers at the South manifest the same unteachable disposition. I have long observed this effect upon young men, (I mean that produced upon those who drive the team upon the farm, and occasionally upon the road,) but never heard it spoken of till a few days ago, a man remarked, "I can't learn that boy any thing; I have spoilt him by letting him drive a team." A boy who drives a team should be under the care of a first rate teamer or he is "a spoilt child."

In my next I shall notice other causes which operate against the progress of the scholars in our common schools.

O. S. M.

Winthrop, Dec. 9, 1839.

HARD PROVENDER.

MR. HOLMES:—A singular case occurred in this neighborhood a short time since, which ought to be a caution to all who keep cows, and especially to millers. Maj. Sturges bought a cow of William J. Tracy, miller, (both of this neighborhood,) which he fattened and butchered a few days ago, and on opening the tripe, he found a pound of old iron including a large brass jew's-harp bow. Most of the iron consisted of broken nails, and some of them even sticking through the paunch, but the most of them were in the manifold.

Mr. Tracy had owned the cow about two years, and during that time had fed her occasionally with "screenings" from the grist-mill and that is supposed to be the way she received the iron. She had been lame, but that was attributed to a hook, she received some time ago. But it was observed by some of the neighbors last summer that there was something singular in her manner of walking. It was said, that she would sometimes be taken very suddenly with something that appeared like the cramp in her hind parts, and she appeared to move her hind legs with much difficulty. I am told that she made good beef.

In haste,

E. FAIRFIELD.

Vassalboro', Jan. 6, 1840.

HOW TO KEEP CIDER SWEET.

Be it known, whereas black mustard seed is a powerful agent in preventing the active fermentation of liquors, that a half pint of it put into a barrel of cider will preserve it as sweet as when first put in, till the following May. But care should be had, in order to preserve the cider from any unpleasant flavor, that the cask be clean and sweet. An effectual method of cleansing from must is thus performed. Take 1 quart of unslacked lime and put into the cask, then pour in four or five gallons of boiling water; cover the bung, leaving the spile or fasset out, which will prevent the barrel from bursting. Shake it thoroughly, then rinse it clean with pure water. It will also add to the quality of the cider to have it clarified from pumice or sediments, as by draining through sand. So much designed for the benefit of the lovers of good cider.

West Sidney.

B. F. W.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

MR. HOLMES:—Those wishing to know the true cause of the disease called the curl in Potatoes can ascertain it by dissecting the stocks that are diseased longitudinally. There will be found in the caliber of the stock a small grub which enters near the earth and there continues to feast until the stock dies. It is probably the grub belongs to the same family which

destroys cabbage plants. I could give the history more particular, but lest I should be accused that it was altogether studied, the least said is best. E.

SUMMARY.

To Agents.

When Agents make remittances it is very important to us that they distinctly state to whom the money is to be credited, and at what Post Office each paper paid for is sent, as we cannot otherwise well find the name on our books.

When payment is made in produce, according to our terms, and left in the hands of Agents, information should in all cases be given us, so that we need not by any means call on the same individuals again. (See terms on the last page.)

LEGISLATURE OF MAINE.

In Senate on Thursday, 9th inst., Mr W. M. Reed from the Committee on the question of the amendment of the Constitution, (relating to the tenure of judicial offices,) reported that the whole number of votes was 43,535; in favor of the amendment 25,747; against 17,788; Majority in favor 7,959. The Report of the Warden of the State Prison was laid on the table and 300 copies ordered to be printed. In the House, on motion of Mr Perry, the Committee on Literature was instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a State Board of Education, which shall be vested with such powers and required to perform such duties as the cause of education shall demand.

In Senate on Friday, a considerable portion of the time was taken up in considering a motion for the recommitment of the Report of the Committee on the Revised Laws. The report was not recommitted but adopted. It provides for the printing of 300 copies of the statutes, and the appointment of a committee to report at an adjourned session. In the House the Committee on Literature was instructed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing school districts to appropriate their portion of the school fund for the purchase of the Common School Library, if a majority deem it expedient. A petition was presented for a law securing to every human being the right of trial by jury.

In Senate, on Saturday, but little business was accomplished. Some petitions were presented and referred. In the House, a bill was introduced making Stockholders of Banks liable in their individual capacity whenever said banks shall violate their charters, was read twice and referred to the committee on Banks and Banking. The committee on Agriculture was instructed to inquire into the expediency of exempting from attachment a sufficient quantity of hay to keep the bull or steer calves which are now by law exempt from attachment.

On Monday the 13th, the two branches assembled in Convention for qualifying the Councilors elect. But little other business was finally accomplished in either House.

In Senate, Tuesday, Jan. 14, several petitions were presented and referred; among them, one from Ebenezer Higgins et al. Resolve of the Penobscot Ag. Society recommending the appointment of an Agricultural Board. In the House a great portion of the time was taken up in discussing the Report of the Committee on Revised Laws, and the expediency of an extra session, for their consideration and adoption.

On Wednesday, 15th, an order was introduced and passed by both branches, directing the Committee on printing to procure the printing, forthwith, of 300 copies of the Commissioners appointed to revise the Statutes. In the House, the committee on Elections made a report that W. Delesdernier is entitled to a seat in the House. The report was accepted.

We have received no very important news from Congress since our last.

FOREIGN.

By the ship Hibernia, London papers to Dec. 10, and Liverpool to the 11th have been received.

Cotton was lower, and was expected to decline still farther. The complexion of the commercial news, however, is represented as generally and decidedly better.

The Great Western arrived on the 30th Nov. She sailed on the 16th.

The French Ministry have appointed Commissioners to proceed to the West India Islands to report on the best means of drawing up a law for emancipating the negroes.

The British Parliament was to meet on the 16th January. Political news of great interest may be expected. The course intended to be pursued by the British government towards China is not yet announced.

The decease of a daughter (only surviving child) of Lord Brougham is mentioned.

Sir John Colborne, for his eminent services in Canada, has been raised to the peerage, under the name, style, and title, of Baron Seaton, of Seaton, in Devon.

The French are in trouble in Africa. The Arabs have commenced a war with the French at Algiers, and the latter have met with several severe losses. Marshal Valée

has applied to government for 10,000 men only. It is said that 25,000 will be sent. At the last accounts nearly all the effective men were called out from the city to oppose the Arabs—firing was heard at a distance, and great alarm existed among the French residents of Algiers. The Moorish population, amounting to at least 20,000 men, were greatly rejoiced, and fears were entertained of a revolt.

On Christmas day, near Elkton, Md. a party of blacks and whites got drunk together, and the best shot of each color declared he could shoot through the hat of the other without injuring him. The black succeeded in doing so; but the white man killed his rival. And the act is excused because "there was no malice in the act, and they were all in liquor!"

The weather was cold at the South on the 1st inst. At New York the thermometer was at 4 degrees in the morning, rose but little during the day, and fell in the evening to near zero. At Philadelphia it was at 15 degrees at 2 o'clock, P. M., at 7 degrees in the evening, and at 5 degrees at sunrise on the following morning. In this vicinity it was ten degrees below zero, at sunrise.

Pork bears no price here, says a letter writer from Columbus, Ohio. Three dollars finds no buyers. There is no money here to buy with. The Cincinnati Post speaks in similar language of the pork market in that city.

A young lady in Utica the other evening put out one of her lover's eyes by playfully throwing a pair of scissors at him while frolicking.

There has been a heavy snow storm about Rochester, N. Y., from Friday night to Monday morning, where the snow was upwards of 3 feet deep on a level.

A writer of short sermons, calls the month a "scandal shop." There is sometimes more truth than poetry in that idea.

Two negro women were frozen to death near Andover, Massachusetts, last week.

The Mormons have commenced the publication of a paper called "The Times and the Seasons," at their new settlement in Illinois. It announces the departure of twelve members of their persuasion, called Apostles, for England.

John Quincy Adams has introduced a bill providing for the disposal and management of the Smithsonian Bequest. In September, 1838, the fund amounted to \$508,348 40.

We learn from an authentic source, says the Chicago American, that 15,000 bushels of wheat were sold a few days since at Marshall, Calhoun county, Michigan, at 30 cents a bushel.

A dancer said, "You cannot stand on one leg, as long as I." "No," was replied, "but a goose can."

Some of the Texan papers understand catering for their readers. The Houston Register publishes an article headed, "How to escape hanging."

A petition to Congress for a general Bankrupt Law is in progress of signature in New York.

The state penitentiary of Ohio, realized during the last year, a profit of \$2,813.

A subscriber to the Coneaut Gazette, writes to the editor that he is about to run away, and advises him to discontinue the paper.

The Wheeling Gazette of Monday last, states that more than thirty stages were then due there from Baltimore, and six mails, owing to the depth of the snow.

Potatoes are selling in Philadelphia, at from 65 to 70 cents per bushel.

Trouble among the Indians.—The Iowa Sun, of the 13th ult., announces the outbreak of a difficulty among the Sacs and Winnebagoes:—It appears that the Foxes and Winnebagoes had agreed to hunt on the same ground during the fall and winter, some fifty or sixty miles west of Dubuque, on the heads of the Waubesa and Koshong rivers. Two or three days after, a party of Sacs, headed by Pashapahoo, or Stabbing Chief, attacked the Winnebagoes, and killed 40 or 50. Two of the Sacs were killed.

It was colder at Petersburg, Va., on the 2d inst. than it was at Providence or Hartford, the thermometer, at 7 o'clock in the morning, standing at six degrees below zero. The papers South all complain of the severity of the weather.

At Joshua Creek Falls, about 11 miles below Lynchburg, Va., on the morning of the 23th ult. 75 kegs of powder on board two boats, ignited and exploded, destroying five boats, and killing four persons, and maiming another.

Georgia.—The Legislature of Georgia has adjourned—the senate having wisely rejected the bill for placing every thing from Maine in quarantine.

Small Potatoes.—A suit for libel, brought by John Percy, vs. Henry G. Wheaton, was tried in Albany last week, occupying the court three days, and resulting in the verdict of six cents for the defendant.

The Grand Jury of Philadelphia have found an indictment against six of the Directors of the Schuyl-

kill Bank. The crime alleged in the indictment is conspiracy to defraud.

Mr. Joshua Linscot of New Castle, Me., committed suicide on the night before Christmas by cutting his throat with a penknife. He was found dead in his store in the morning. Mr. L. was a bachelor, aged about 45.

GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS.—The Committee appointed by the Legislature to count the votes for Governor and Lieut. Governor of Massachusetts, reported on Monday that the whole number of votes legally returned for Governor was 102,066
Necessary to a choice 51,034
Marcus Morton has 51,034
Edward Everett 50,725
All others 307

Incongruities were found in the returns of many towns named. The committee did not attempt to correct them; the Legislature may do so, and some time elapse before the report is accepted.

No choice for Lieut. Governor.

The Keene Window Glass Company, are now manufacturing *Chrystallized Quartz* into Glass; an entirely new material for Window Glass making, which renders it much stronger and clearer, and gives it a peculiar and beautiful lustre.

The Bangor Democrat says that the English are extending their military operations down the Madawaska river, constructing barracks on the north and south side of the St. John's river, at the confluence of the Madawaska, in violation of the agreement made by Sir John Harvey and General Scott.

The condition of society in Portugal, particularly in the large city of Lisbon, must be dreadful indeed—From an official return published in the *Diario*, it appears that during the months of April, May and June, of 1839, 2778 crimes were known to have been committed in Lisbon, of which 333 were assassinations! During the three following months, there were 178 assassinations!

Attempt to Poison.—A paper of poisoned coffee was left at the house of Mr. Hoyt, Collector of Customs, No. 3 Washington place, New York, but the family remembering the trick upon Mr. Otis, did not use the coffee; and it was afterwards ascertained to contain arsenic. The intent was undoubtedly murderous.

THERMOMETRICAL RECORD

AT PORTLAND, 1839.

The following table gives the monthly average of the degrees of heat and cold for the past year, noted at sunrise, at noon and at 8 P. M. Also, the average for each month in the year, and the general average for the last 22 years.

	Sun- rise,	Noon.	8 P. M.	Average the pres- ent year.	Average for 22 years.
1839.					
January,	17 deg.	25 deg.	21 deg.	21 deg.	19 deg.
February,	18	26	23	22	22
March,	26	35	30	30	31
April,	35	47	41	41	41
May,	43	56	49	49	51
June,	51	63	56	57	60
July,	61	71	64	65	66
August,	58	71	63	65	64
September,	52	63	56	57	58
October,	42	54	48	48	48
November,	30	39	34	34	36
December,	24	31	28	28	24

REMARKS.

January—was not a very cold month. The coldest day was the 24th; the mercury at sunrise was 16 1-2 deg. below zero, but in the course of the day was 8 deg. above—the range of the mercury from 16 1-2 below to 43 deg. above. All the month indifferent sleighing. Last few days much bare ground.

February—has been 8 degrees warmer than the same month last year, but the first half was unusually cold; for a few days the harbor was frozen over. Latter part of the month mild,—from the 16th the harbor free from ice. Range of the mercury from 14 below to 42 deg. above. There have been at no time more than 5 inches snow upon the ground; no severe storms and for one half the month, in course of the day calm. Very few N. West winds.

March—The temperature of this month has been the same as the general average; quantity of snow 7 inches, indifferent sledding,—mud in the streets for half the month. Range of Thermometer from 4 below to 57 degrees above zero.

April has been a month of good weather, range of Thermometer from 24 to 70 degrees, several moderate rain storms. Snow half an inch.

May has been two degrees colder than the general average. Much rain, with easterly winds and fog.—The mercury from 24 to 71 degrees above.

June—First part raw and chilly, with easterly winds and fog, with much rain; latter part mild. The temperature of the month gave 3 1-2 degrees lower than the general average for the last 22 years, and during the above space of time there was but one colder June. Range of mercury from 42 to 78 degrees.

July—Much rain this month, with easterly winds and fog. Thermometer ranging from 50 to 90 degrees, being the highest point for the Summer.

August—The monthly temperature same as general average; pleasant till the last 2 days, during which we had a strong N. E. Gale of wind, with rain. Thermometer from 48 to 84 degrees during the month.

September—Pleasant—no gales or even very strong winds. Mercury ranging from 42 to 78 degrees.

October—Pleasant—hazy weather for a number of days, no severe storms. Thermometer highest on the 10th at 69 deg., lowest on the 25th at 24 degrees.

November—The weather this month has not been severe. Only two rain storms, one on the 6th the other on the 25th, not violent. On the 20th one inch snow fell, first for the season; last November, 6 1-2 inches snow.

December has been a month of unusual weather; from the last of November to the 9th of this month, the wind continued blowing (but not strong) from the North East, at times rain and fog, the most of this time a heavy sea rolling in on the neighboring shores. Weather mild for December, the first 14 days the Thermometer averaging 35 degrees above. Two violent gales occurred in this month which caused great damage and loss among the shipping on our coast.—The first occurred on the fifteenth; the second on the 27th. The mercury was highest on the 9th at 48 degrees, lowest on the 20th at 2 degrees above.

The average temperature for Portland, on the mean for the last 22 years, is 42 1-2 degrees, for the past year 43 degrees.

Snow for the year 3 feet 6 inches, viz: January 3 1-2 inches. February 15 inches. March 7 inches. April 1-2 inch. November 1 inch. December 15 inches.—The snow that has fallen here for the last 15 years gives an average for each year of 4 feet 9 inches.

There has not this Winter thus far, been any Ice in the Harbor or Bay.

Portland; Observatory, January 1, 1840.

THE WEATHER.

Range of the Thermometer in a Shaded exposure, at the Office of the Maine Farmer.

1840.

JAN.	Sunrise.	Noon	Sun's t	Weather.	Wind.
6,	24	23	21	FFF	
7,	18	33	32	FFF	
8,	12	29	26	FFF	
9,	25	34	30	CCC	
10,	23	42	38	CCC	
11,	17	22	20	CCF	
12,	5	12	13	FFF	
13,	4	24	26	CCC	
14,	17	22	21	FFC	
15,	8	11	10	CCF	
16,	8*	1*	1	FFF	NW. NW.

F. for Fair weather; C. cloudy; S. snow; R. rain. The place of these letters indicate the character of the weather at each time of observation—for instance, Jan 14, at sunrise it was fair; at noon it was fair; at sunset it was cloudy. * Below zero.

We intended to have commenced our record with the year, but the Thermometer we were to use was unluckily broken, and we had to postpone until we could procure another.

The direction of the wind is noted at sunrise and sunset.

Married,

In Monmouth, Mr. Josiah Tilton to Miss Dianthe Smith.

In Levant, Joseph R. Sawyer to Miss Sarah Haskell—Richard H. Reede to Miss Mary Brown.

In Corinth, Noah Barker, Esq. of Exeter, to Miss Temperance B. Eddy.

In Carmel, 25th ult. Wm. L. Johnson to Miss Nancy M. Casey.

In Hermon, Mr. Hiram Bickford to Miss Caroline Gulliver.

In Turner, Mr. Horace Hutchinson to Miss Gustava Alden.

In Jefferson, Daniel Day of Nobleboro, to Miss Mary Eames; William Young of Washington, to Miss Hannah Bond; Samuel W. Jackson, Esq. to Miss Loretta Richardson.

DIED,

In Warren, Joana, wife of John Creighton.

In Mobile, 1st Nov. Samuel Vanston of Thomaston, aged 20.

In Vassalboro, 7th inst. Joseph Howland, in the 70th year of his age. He was a worthy member of the Society of Friends, had been a resident of that town 54 years, but was a native of Pembroke, Mass.

In Anson, 15th ult. Olive P. daughter of Hon. Daniel Steward, Jr. in her 16th year.

In East Pond Plantation, Barnabas Eaton, 63.

In Brunswick, Missouri, of consumption, Mr. Oliver Springer, a native of Sidney, formerly member of Waterville College.

Payments.

J. Stevens F	1 00	A. Homsted S	2 00
H. Sylvester G	2 00	B. Peterson WS	2 00
D. H. Dearborn M	2 00	J. B. Swanton W	2 00
Dr. L. Carey T	1 75	H. Wilder N D	2 00
Millet & Lamb N L	2 00	T. Chick N	2 00
B. Kimball M	2 00	V. Foye P	2 00
I. Nelson W	83	J. Homsted S	1 00
E. C. Fairfield FM	2 00	H. Clark D	2 00
Capt. J. Munroe L	2 00	Capt. W. H. Dole E O	2 00
D. Oakes F F	3 26	S. Wiswell E O	1 75
N. Baldwin N S	1 75	Capt. C. Snow jr E O	2 00
M. Bridges W	1 75	Maj. S. Wood, Jr. W	2 32
S. E. Stone R	2 00	W. Sampson W	1 12
N. Smith L C	2 00	A. J. Downes M	1 75
D. Billings N N	2 00	Cook & Kelley S	1 75
S. Shaw P	2 00	B. Leuzarder M	2 00
S. Kendall A	1 00	A. Crane W	1 75
L. Cochran F	2 00	W. Lowell, Jr. W	2 00
D. Goodell M	4 00	S. Stetson S	10 00
J. W. Jackson M	2 00	H. Stetson E S	2 00
A. Newhall E J	2 00	J. G. Neil S	1 75
Capt. J. Barrett WS	2 00	D. Butters E	2 00
G. Goodwin W	1 00	P. Butters E	1 75
O. Hawes U	1 75	Wm. Grennel E	1 75
L. Malbon S	2 00	D. Gilmore E B	2 00
C. Lane S C	2 88	D. Strout B	2 00
O. Dill P	3 80	D. T. Robinson P	4 00
F. P. Low G	2 00	M. J. Metcalf M	2 00

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday Jan. 6, 1840.

(From the New England Farmer.)

At Market 710 Beef Cattle, 120 Stores, 2150 Sheep, and 150 Swine.

PRICES. Beef Cattle—We quote to correspond with last week; first quality \$6.25; second 5.50 a 6; third 4.50 a 5.25.

Barrelling Cattle—Mess \$5.50, No. 1, \$5.

Cows and Calves—Very few at market, and we noticed no sales.

Sheep—Lots were sold at \$1.75, 2, 2.50, 3, 4.25, and 4.50; a few cosset wethers at \$8 each.

Swine—A very few were retained from 4 to 5 1-2c. and the rest were sold in one lot, at 3c. for sows and 4c. for barrows.

Swine, Pigs and Bees for Sale.

THE subscriber has for sale at his farm in Winthrop, an assortment of swine and shoats. These swine comprise most of the improved breeds such as Bedford—Tuscarora—Berkshire, Mackay and Improved China. He has four pairs of pigs, now three weeks old, from a cross of Bedford and Berkshire. He will also have for sale in the course of the season, pigs from Mr. Hains full blood Berkshire,—Mr. Glidden's Tuscarora, and also other breeds.

Also one of Beard's Bee houses, well stocked with bees and their honey. All of which will be sold on reasonable terms.

JOHN KEZER, Jr.

Winthrop, Jan. 1840.

Notice.

WHILE driving sheep through the town of Winthrop on the 24th of Dec., a Ram came into the flock near Mr. Sears', which the owner can have by calling on the subscriber.

SAMUEL STEVENS.

East Monmouth, Dec. 30, 1839.

A Good Family Horse

For sale by

LEVI JOHNSON.

Vienna, Jan'y 1, 1840.

Improved Swine.

THE subscriber would respectfully inform the public that he intends keeping his full blooded Berkshire Boar for the use of Sows the ensuing winter at his farm in Wales. This animal was selected by me in Liverpool, England, in June 1838, and brought to this country under my personal care. The stock of this Boar is universally approved of where it is known. Those who are desirous of improving their breed of Swine will do well to call and see for themselves.

TERMS—Two dollars cash for the season. Sows that are brought from a distance which may be found necessary to leave for a time will be well tended, for which 50 cents per week extra will be charged.

JOHN LOMBARD.

Wales, Dec. 15, 1839.

OWEN DEALY, Tailor,

WOULD respectfully inform the inhabitants of Winthrop and vicinity that he still continues to carry on the tailoring business at his old stand in Winthrop Village.

O. D. would say to those who are in need of winter clothing, that he has just received the fall and winter fashions, and will be happy to wait on those who will favor him with their custom.

Cutting done at short notice.

Two Girls wishing to learn the trade will find a good chance. Also two coat makers, to whom good wages will be paid.

Winthrop, Dec. 1839.

Orders for Premiums,

OF the Ken. Co. Ag. Society, are left with the Secretary, Wm. Noyes, at the office of Me. Farmer.

KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, on the 1st Tuesday of January, A. D. 1840.

Isaac Bowles administrator of the Estate of Francis J. Bowles late of Wayne, in said county, deceased, having presented his account of administration of the Estate of said deceased for allowance:

Ordered, That the said Administrator, give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, printed at Winthrop, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta, in said county, on the last Tuesday of February next, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed. **H. W. FULLER, Judge,**

A true copy. Attest: J. J. EVELETH, Register pro tem.

Honey—Beard's Box Honey.

20 TONS of Beard's Patent Box Honey in the comb wanted, for which 15 cents per pound will be given. It will be taken in any town within the State where five hundred pounds will be collected in one place in said towns free from damage. Taken in the Fall and Winter of 1840. Information of the above given through the Maine Farmer or to the subscriber, post paid.

EBENEZER BEARD.

New Sharon, Dec. 24, 1839.

3w1

Cooking, Franklin, Box, Parlor Stoves, &c. &c.

THE subscribers have for sale Granger's elevated rotary Cooking Stove—a new article and highly approved. Also the improved Rotary—the Conical, the Perfect and improved Premium—Rathburn's and Stewart's Premium, and Spaulding's Rising Grate. Also James', which will be sold very low. Franklin Stoves, suitable for Parlors, Sleeping rooms, Offices, Stores, School Houses, &c. Seven different sizes Box Stoves. Fire Frames, a variety of patterns and Sizes. Cauldrons, Oven, Boiler and Ash Mouths. Sheet Iron, at wholesale or retail. Russia and English Iron. Funnel, of any size wanted. Sheet Zinc; do Lead.

Sheet iron, Tin plate and Copper work done promptly and with neatness.

All kinds of repairing in the tin ware line done on short notice.

SAM'L CHANDLER,

JOHN H. HILL.

Winthrop, Dec. 4th, 1839.

47

Tannery for sale in Greene.

THE Tannery occupied by MERRICK LAMB of Greene Corner, is now offered for sale. It is well situated for business, being the only establishment of the kind in town. There are on the premises a good dwelling house, Stable Bark-house, Currier's shop, Beam-house and Woodshed. For terms apply to Capt. LAMB, on the premises or to (42tf) E. BARRELL.

Improved Swine and sheep.

THE subscriber hereby informs the public that he intends to keep his full blooded BERKSHIRE BOAR, for the use of Sows the ensuing winter, at his Farm in Hallowell. This animal was obtained last spring from Lexington, Mass., from stock lately imported by Elias Phinney. There is a breed of Swine extant in our State, which have been erroneously called "Berkshire," which are very unlike and inferior to the true blood. This breed is now universally acknowledged where it is known in this country, to be superior to all others; they combine the qualities of large, size, with a quiet disposition, early maturity and easy to fatten;—They are long bodied, short legged, broad and straight in their back and remarkably full in their quarters. To this Boar was awarded the first premium at the Kennebec Agricultural Fair, recently held at Winthrop.

Terms, Two Dollars, cash, for the season. Sows brought from a distance, and which it may be found necessary to leave for a time, will be well tended, for which will be charged 50 cents per week extra.

My old Bedford Boar, which is between four and five years old, will be kept the ensuing winter at Daniel Craig's, of Readfield; he is a fine animal and has been remarkably honored in his descendants—he received the Kennebec Agricultural Society's first premium in A. D. 1835, and his progeny has received premiums every year since, of the same Society, and several times they have received premiums from the Penobscot and Somerset Ag. Societies. I have received orders for his pigs, during the past summer, from four different States of the Union, and also from the Dist. of Columbia, which I have answered by forwarding them. **Terms**, one dollar for the season, cash. I have for sale 2 pairs of Bedford Pigs, six weeks old, from the Sow that was exhibited at Winthrop, and took the first premium at the late Cattle Show and Fair, and one pair of Bedford and Mackey pigs. Also for sale or to let, one Buck, half South Down, one fourth Dishley, and one fourth Merino.

J. W. HAINS.

Hallowell, 11th Mo. 12th, 1839.

49

POETRY.

Original.

THE NORTHERN FARMER.

Tho' cold and wintry be our clime,
Mid frost, and winds, and snow—
We envy not the Southern's lot,
Where spicy zephyrs blow.

We have good health, but not the wealth
By fraud—oppression got,—
And stronger ties should ever bind
The "Farmer" to his cot

We scorn alike the "wintry wind,"
And boasted lands AFAR:—
At home, with plenty on our board,
We ask not for a "greedy hoard"
Beneath the Western Star.

RHO.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Original

It is sad to look over the history of those red sons of the forest, who once were the sole owners of this Western land. Here they were born, lived, and died; here were their council fires; here they paddled their canoes on the rapid waters of their beautiful rivers; here they pursued their game on the mountains; here they wandered over the beautiful, and verdant hills, the steep and craggy mountains; through pleasant valleys, watered by murmuring streams, through the broad prairie with its seas of grass, gracefully waving in the stirring gale; and here they wandered by the shores of the foaming ocean. Here they warred; here they followed their own desires with none to molest them; they went up by their mountains, they came down by their valleys, free as the air that blows in the heaven. The green forests resounded with their merry voices, and the everlasting hills echoed back their lofty songs. This was emphatically their own land; no other beings knew of it for thousands of years. They lived in all the happiness of their simple life, and in all things which their uncultivated and unenlightened minds could enjoy. But at last their country was discovered, then came their destruction. Giant barks came across the mighty ocean, and in them the seeds of the extermination of these rude sons of the forest. It was a fearful omen for their happy land when these arrived. A strange and unaccountable people had come to their shores. They were afraid, they retreated to the inmost recesses of their dense forests.—They became acquainted, but to their ultimate sorrow, for soon a warfare commenced. The unhappy red man retreated before his white pursuer, and he is still at this time retreating, leaving the land of his fathers. Slowly and sadly he leaves his youthful abode, and ever and anon casts his lingering looks behind, while he is retreating to the farthest end sundown; and soon he will have arrived and plunged the Pacific wave and sunk to rise no more. Their fate is inevitable; they will soon have gone the way of all the earth. A few yet remain, and wander about in their own land as beggars. They sometimes speak of former days, saying, "all this country, these hills and valleys were formerly ours."

I have asked in an audible tone, in my wanderings in the forests, "Where are they?" and echo answered "Where are they." Then I have wondered at the stillness which prevailed, and of the former inhabitants, who wandered in these self-same groves. But it is not strange for "man goeth to his long home." The Indians have but followed the track of other nations. Still it is lamentable for us that we have been the cause of their decline and annihilation.

EPHEBUS.

Farmington, 1840.

ON THE WORKS OF CREATION AND PROVIDENCE.

When we contemplate the works of creation and Providence, we are filled with wonder and admiration to behold so many various ways and means provided for the sustenance and benefits and likewise for the happiness of mankind. Behold the beasts of the field, the fowls of the air, and the fishes of the sea they mostly if not all seem to be made for the use of man. The earth too bringeth forth its fruit in its season yielding a more abundant supply for the faithful laborers while the slothful and negligent are left more destitute.

Even so it is with mankind as to their spiritual state those who are faithful laborers enjoy an abundant supply of blessings, while the slothful and negligent have nothing for their support but the husks and vana-

times of distress and in the trying day, when the secrets of all hearts will be made manifest, when every man will be judged according to the deeds done in the body whether they be good or whether they be evil. The Lord saith, "look unto me all the ends of the earth and be ye saved for I am God and beside me there is none else." Now the righteous or we may say the faithful laborers in Christ Jesus are ever looking to the Lord for strength to enable them to do their duty agreeably to the will of him who hath called them to the work of the Lord, well knowing that they can do nothing of themselves or in their own strength, for God is their all in all, he is their chief delight their only hope in death.—AMEN.

SYRENA MAGOON.

THE GREATEST MEN WERE MECHANICS AND FARMERS.—By David Paul Brown.—Who was it that shed the brightest lustre upon the vast science of astronomy? One David Rittenhouse, a Native of Pennsylvania, who followed the plough. Who was it that tore the lightning from Heaven, and the sceptre from tyrants? One Benjamin Franklin, a printer's boy, who protected himself from the inclemency of winter by exercise alone, and lived upon a single roll of bread a day. Who was it, when the veteran armies of Great Britain faltered and fled in the Indian war, safely conducted the retreat, and secured the remnant of the army, though he had "never set a squadron in the field, nor the division of a battle knew more than a spinster?" One George Washington, a Virginia planter. Who was it that shed the brightest halo around the brightest reign that the world ever knew—the reign of Elizabeth; the age of the Raleighs, the Bacons, Sidneys? Why, it was one Ben Jonson, a quondam apprentice to a bricklayer, and one Will Shakespeare, a peasant boy, shrewdly suspected of poaching upon his neighbor's deer. Or passing from astronomy and poetry to law, who was it rose from a low beginning to be Lord Chief Justice of England? One Charley Abbot, whose father was a barber. Who was it that rose to be Lord High Chancellor of England? One Jack Copely, whose father was an American painter. Who was it that became the brightest star in the judicial constellation of Great Britain? One Phil. Yorke, whose father no one knew.

Although I do not mean to say that there never was a great man among the wealthy, curled darlings of the nation, yet I do mean to say, and history sustains the assertion, that luxury and affluence are calculated to enfeeble the mind, and that those therefore who are great in despite of them would probably be much greater if removed from their influence. It is a well known fact among gentlemen of the turf, that blooded horses, which for years have been permitted to browse and eat on broken, irregular and mountainous pastures, have acquired a much greater muscular strength, in sportsman's phrase, better bottom, than those which are fed upon a level surface. The application of this, although a physical illustration, is not difficult. Men whose lives have been an uninterrupted course of difficulty, a perfect up-hill work, acquire in time a self-sufficiency and promptitude in every emergency, which those who have been accustomed to stand for fame on their forefather's feet, or to lean for all pleasure upon another's breast, never have known and never can know.—Philadelphia Saturday Courier.

LIST OF LETTERS remaining in the Post Office at Winthrop, January 1, 1840.

Andrews Stephen	Lancaster Thomas
Bonney Horace	Maxwell John
Black James W	McCaunn Hugh
Bishop Ransom	Moulton James M
Brown Hannah	Ramsdale Sarah Ann
Chandler Daniel F.	Richardson William
Chandler Tillotson	Shaw Martha
Dearborn George H	Snell Luther
Dexter Nathaniel	Shaw Wm S
Dennis Abigail	Stevens John A
Drover Sanborn	Tyler Martha
Fairbanks Catherine	Thomas Cephas
Goddard Eliza	Whiting Elias
Hains Walter	Williams Eunice
Hunt Caleb	Woodward Amos
Johnson Hannah B	Whitney Alvan
Johnson Deborah M	White Benjamin
Lovejoy Asa L (3)	Wellington Elbridge

DAVID STANLEY, P. M.

Notice.

THE subscriber hereby respectfully gives notice, that in consideration of his advanced age, he has decided to discontinue his professional business, and requests all with whom he has an open account to call and make settlement before the first of March next.

PELEG BENSON.

Winthrop, Dec. 25, 1839.

Furniture at the Maine Wesleyan Seminary.

The Manual Labor operations at the Maine Wesleyan Seminary, after having been suspended for the past year, are now resumed under the Superintendence of Mr JOHN LITTLEFIELD. Purchasers of Furniture and Chairs can be accommodated with any articles they may order, of neat and faithful workmanship, and at such prices as cannot fail to be satisfactory.

W. C. LARRABEE.
Readfield, Kent's Hill, Dec. 1839. 4w60

Splendid Goods and a rare chance for BARGAINS!

THE subscriber informs his friends and the public that he has purchased the Store in this village formerly owned by Samuel Chandler, Esq., and has just received a large assortment of CHOICE GOODS for winter use, which he offers on terms that cannot fail to suit purchasers.

Among which will be found, Merinos plain and figured, Bonnet Silks, Bonnet Linings, Ribbons of all descriptions, Rattans, Bound wire, Edinboro' and

Highland Shawls,

Muslins, Cambricks, plain and figured Laces, Handkerchiefs of all sorts and descriptions; English, French and

American Prints,

Paint and Varnish Brushes, Dressing Combs, Shell and Horn Side Combs, Hosiery of various kinds,

Boots and Shoes,

of almost every size and description.

Broadcloths

of every quality, Black, Blue, Brown, &c.; Cassimeres, Lion Skins, Petershams, Beaver and Pilot Cloths, Vestings, Silk and Cotton Velvets, Camlets, Camleens and Alepines for cloaks and dresses.

Feathers

of the first quality, Suspenders, Buttons and Hooks & Eyes, Horse Blankets.

Sheetings

bleached and unbleached, Linens of various qualities. Also a large and extensive assortment of

Hard Ware, China, Glass

and Crockery Ware, Saddlery, Cutlery, &c. Also a full supply of

West India Goods & Groceries,

Winter and Fall Strained Sperm Oil, Linseed Oil, Paints and Dyestuffs. Also a large supply of

Fresh Drugs and Medicines,

School, Miscellaneous and Account BOOKS, Stationary, and Paper hangings in a great variety.—Comprising one of the most extensive and desirable stocks ever offered in this place. All of which he offers for sale on the most reasonable terms for cash or approved credit. Please call and examine.

B. H. CUSHMAN.

Winthrop, December 3, 1839.

47

Notice.

The subscriber having disposed of his stock in trade to B. H. CUSHMAN, Esq., and being desirous and rather necessitated to have all his concerns relating to his former business closed up with the least possible delay, requests all who have unadjusted accounts with him to call and settle the same on or before the 20th of January next, and all who are indebted to him, whether by note or account, and whose term of credit has expired to have the same liquidated without fail by that time.

SAML. CHANDLER.

Winthrop, Dec. 19, 1839.

50

The Maine Farmer,

And Journal of the Useful Arts,

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WINTHROP

By NOYES & ROBBINS;

E. HOLMES, EDITOR.

Price \$2.00 a year. \$2.50 will be charged if payment is delayed beyond the year. A deduction of 25 cents will be made to those who pay cash in advance—and a proportionable deduction to those who pay before the publication of the 26th number, at which time payment is considered due.

Any kind of produce, not liable to be injured by frost, delivered to an Agent in any town in the State, will be received in payment, if delivered within the year.

Any person who will obtain six responsible subscribers, and act as Agent, shall receive a copy for his services.

No paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, except at the option of the publishers; and when payment is made to an Agent, two numbers more than have been received, should be paid for.

A few short advertisements will be inserted at the following rates. All less than a square \$1.00 for three insertions. \$1.25 per square, for three insertions. Continued three weeks at one half these rates.

All letters on business must be free of postage.